

09/831453

JC08 Rec'd PCT/PTO 09 MAY 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
Shinji OKUDA et al. : Attn: BOX PCT
Serial No. NEW : Docket No. 2001_0464A
Filed May 9, 2001 :
METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MOLDING BEAD
[Corresponding to PCT/JP99/06313
Filed November 12, 1999]

3A
8/1/01
THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination for the above-identified new PCT application, kindly amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend claims 3, 5-6, 10-12, 14-15, 22-24, 33, 37, and 39 as follows:

3. (Amended) The bead molding method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the bead molding step molds the hollow bead into a shapes corresponding to and following the shape of the applying position by applying the work with the hollow bead or the foamable material onto the applying position while transferring the streams along the applying position.